



#4 Pre Q

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of inventors Gary Ketner

Serial No. 09/904,698

Group Art Unit: 1646

Filed: 07/13/2001

Examiner: unknown

For: ***"USE OF GENE PRODUCT OF ADENOVIRUS EARLY REGION 4 ORF-6 TO INHIBIT REPAIR OF DOUBLE-STRAND BREAKS IN DNA"***

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-5.

Please amend claims 6-15 as follows. A marked-up version of the amended claims is attached.

6. A method of inhibiting repair of breaks in double-stranded DNA in a cell which comprises introducing into the cell the gene product of the early region 4 (E4) open reading frame 6 (ORF-6) of genomic adenoviral DNA.

7. A method of preventing cancer in a subject which comprises introducing into a cell of the subject the gene product of the early region 4 (E4) open reading frame 6 (ORF-6) of genomic